

September 2012



iowacollaboration
foryouthdevelopment

Mark Your Calendar

The Governor's Bullying Prevention Summit

November 27

Registration opens Sept. 17

This conference will be held to raise awareness on the issue of bullying. Registration open to public. For more information, see information and link located in this newsletter under Youth Development News.

Questions or comments? Email

Tana.Mullen@iowa.gov

Next SIYAC Meeting

September 19

Time: 9:00am-3:00pm

Location: Legislative Dining Room
Capitol Building

Questions or comments? Email

Renee.Mallo@iowa.gov

ICYD Council Meeting

September 26

Time: 2:00pm-4:00pm

Location: Jessie Parker Building
Starkweather room

Questions or comments? Email

Steve.Michael@iowa.gov

"Stop Bullying" Video Challenge

Deadline: October 14, 11PM

Youth invited to create short video on ways to take action against bullying and promote kindness and respect. Grand prize \$2,000 and \$500 for 2 runner-ups.

For more information, see

[StopBullyingInitiative](#)

IYC Annual Conference

November 1-3

The 7th Annual Iowa Youth Congress Session will be held in the Iowa House Chamber in Des Moines.

Questions or comments? Email

Frances.Collins-Dusseault@iowa.gov

*Want your event in the next newsletter? Contact jayci.adams-nordstrom@iowa.gov with the date, location, and a brief description.

ICYD INSIDER

Youth Development News

No Mandatory Life without Parole for Juveniles Convicted of Homicide

Life without parole for juveniles has been deemed unconstitutional because it violates the Eighth Amendment's prohibition on cruel and unusual punishment, the Supreme Court ruled in a 5-4 decision in June, 2012. The Supreme Court ruled on both *Miller v. Alabama* and *Jackson v. Hobbs*. Both juveniles involved were sentenced to life in prison for murders committed at age 14. The American Psychological Association applauded the decision saying that "A consistent and growing body of social science and neuroscience research findings supports the conclusion that juveniles are less culpable than adults, and are entitled to different treatment in sentencing in light of their immaturity, vulnerability and changeability." [OJJDP](#) has created a newsletter which includes information on this issue.

Teen Suicide Prevention

Many local organizations including The [United Way of North Central Iowa](#) have begun to collaborate to sponsor events that reach a goal of educating the community, parents, and youth on the importance of mental health wellness and seeking help and support when needed. New Hampton, Iowa, will be holding a kick-off event on September 20th from 6:30 to 7:30 at the New Hampton High School. The event will include a speaker who lost her son to suicide, as well as discussions on mental health disorders and the human brain. The [WCF Courier](#) has an article further discussing the event on its website.

Bullying Prevention Summit

Governor Branstad will be holding a bullying prevention summit in response to the most recent Iowa Youth Survey, which found that half of Iowa's youth have reported being bullied in school. Bullying has been found to increase risk factors for those bullied, including an increased risk of suicide. The summit is intended to raise awareness about the severity of bullying and that schools alone cannot tackle the issue. The Governor is hoping that confronting this issue at a community level may be more effective than doing so at an individual level. Registration will open to the public September 17, 2012. The conference will be held November 27, 2012 in Des Moines. The following link will provide you more information on the event: <https://preventbullying.iowa.gov/>

Teen Trust Board Allocates \$10,000

Teen Trust is a program of the Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa, which seeks to promote philanthropy among Black Hawk County teens. Twenty-six new youth were chosen to be a part of the board through an application process. The board empowers and challenges high school students to learn about community needs, create and distribute grant applications, and work together to decide what nonprofit 501(c)(3) organizations receive as part of their \$10,000 allocation available from the Youth Interest Fund. This both helps local organizations implement more services, and empowers youth to see that they can be leaders and play a part in positive community changes. The [WCF Courier](#) has an article further discussing the Teen Trust Board on its website.

To submit an article or resource, email jayci.adams-nordstrom@iowa.gov with an internet link and description.

State of Iowa Youth Advisory Council Update

Both new and returning members of the State of Iowa Youth Advisory Council began their terms this year with an orientation session at the Capitol this July. Meeting with members from Iowa Youth Congress, members discussed the collaboration between the two youth organizations, lobbying legislators to pass favorable policies for the youth, along with a basic explanation of both programs. Later on, the Council members discussed possible areas of focus for SIYAC in the upcoming term, and considered various proposals of possible projects to undertake. On Sunday the 19th, Council members took part in a conference call to discuss possible committees for the upcoming year. Ideas ranging from cyber-bullying and discrimination to teen nutrition and education were addressed. Further research on particular issues were tasked to certain members of the Council. The conference call schedule was also modified in order to better accommodate members of the council while increasing communication. Overall, while the first quarterly meeting hasn't yet occurred, the State of Iowa Youth Advisory Council looks to have a promising year. -Umar Farooq, SIYAC Vice Chair

You can learn more about SIYAC's 2012 committees and their work with community partners by [clicking here](#).

<http://www.icyd.iowa.gov/>